

III. REMARKS

1. Claims 1-5 and 8-26 remain in the application. Claims 6 and 7 were previously cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 23 and 26 have been amended. Claim 27 is new.

Support for the amendments may be found in the specification, for example, on page 9, lines 9-20.

2. Claims 1-5, and 8-26 are patentable over the combination of Wang (US 6,175,922) and Wiik et al. (US 5,260,551, "Wiik") under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

The combination of Wang and Wiik fails to disclose or suggest receiving from a service provider a key having an identification tag identifying the service provider and validity information relating to a service provided by the service provider; and providing the key and validity information to the access device in response to a request identifying the service provider, as essentially recited by claims 1, 23, and 26.

2.1 Neither Wang nor Wiik has any disclosure related to receiving from a service provider a key having an identification tag identifying the service provider and validity information relating to a service provided by the service provider.

Wang describes a system for approving a transaction request between an electronic transaction system and a portable electronic authorization device. The system includes the ability to receive and utilize keys but there is no disclosure in Wand regarding receiving a key having an identification tag identifying a service provider from the service provider. Applicants also find no disclosure related to validity information relating to a service provided by the service provider in Wang. In column 7, lines 45-60, Wand describes including identification data for transaction approval, for example, an electronic signature, transaction approval data, and user identification data. However, there is no disclosure of validity information relating to a service provided by the service provider.

These deficiencies are not cured by Wiik. Wiik describes a time controlled lock system, but has no disclosure related to receiving a key having an identification tag identifying the service provider from the service provider, and nothing related to receiving validity information relating to a service provided by the service provider.

2.2 There is nothing in Wang or Wiik related to providing the key and validity information to the access device in response to a request identifying the service provider.

Wang describes various transactions but has nothing related to a request identifying a service provider, and a response that provides the key with the identification tag identifying the service provider, and also provides the validity information as defined, to an access device.

Wiik also fails to disclose or suggest this feature.

At least for these reasons, independent claims 1, 23, and 26, and dependent claims 2-5, 8-22, 24, and 25 are patentable over the combination of Wang and Wiik.

3. Claim 27 is new and is directed to a user device arranged to receive from a service provider, via a first wireless communication link, at least one key having an identification tag identifying the service provider and validity information relating to a service provided by said service provider. The user device is also arranged to establish a second wireless communication link with an access device, said second wireless communication link arranged to provide said validity information and all keys having the identification tag identifying the service provider to said access device in response to a request identifying the service provider, wherein said access device identifies a matching key from the provided keys, and said matching key and said validity information allow said access device to determine without any connection to a central control element associated with the service provider whether or not to provide access, wherein if

said key and said validity information are determined by the access device to be valid access is provided, and wherein said first and second wireless communication links operate at different frequencies.

Applicants find no disclosure in the combination of Wang and Wiik that describes or suggests all the features of claim 27, and therefore respectfully submit that claim 27 is patentable over the cited combination.

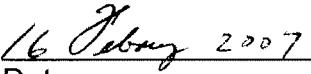
For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

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Respectfully submitted,


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